Appl. No. 10/719,263 Atty. Docket No. 9435 Amdt. dated 14 July 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2006 Customer No. 27752



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A tampon for feminine hygiene comprising an insertion end, a withdrawal end, a center region, a longitudinal axis, and an outer surface; said tampon being comprised of compressed fibrous material; wherein said outer surface of said tampon comprises a plurality of recessed portions; each of said recessed portions comprising a length dimension and a width dimension; wherein said width dimension varies intermittently as measured along said length dimension; and
- Claim 2. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the largest width dimension is located in said insertion end.

wherein all of said outer surface of said tampon is liquid-absorbing.

- Claim 3. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the largest width dimension is located in said withdrawal end.
- Claim 4. (Original) The tampon according Claim 1 wherein the smallest width dimension is located in said center region.
- Claims 5-6. (Cancelled)
- Claim 7. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said recessed portions are evenly spaced.

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- Claim 8. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has an essentially uniform density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- Claim 9. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has varying density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- Claim 10. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said tampon further comprises a core which is highly compressed.
- Claim 11. (Original) The tampon according to Claim I wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a withdrawal member.
- Claim 12. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a finger indent.